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Director

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Employment Bulletin



Edward D. DiPrete
Governor

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EMPLOYMENT

Total establishment employment in Rhode Island rose to 462,200 in June, primarily due to gains in the nonmanufacturing sector, reported John S. Renza, Director of the Rhode Island Department of Employment Security. The current job total reflects an increase of 900 from the May level and is 2,900 more than the June, 1988 figure of 459,300.

Nonfactory employment increased by 1,100 to the June level of 349,100, mainly the result of additional seasonal hiring in Trade (+1,400) and Contract Construction (+900). At the same time, an upturn of 100 workers each was reported in Transportation/Public Utilities and Finance/Insurance/Real Estate. In contrast, a decline of 1,400 was posted in Services, while overall Government employment showed no change from the prior month. Compared to the same month a year ago, Rhode Island's current nonfactory total represents a gain of 4,000 jobs.

Overall factory employment in the state fell by 200 in the May - June period to 113,100. In addition, this figure is 1,100 below the year ago level of 114,200. Employment in both the Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods producing industries decreased by 100 from May. The only monthly employment gain (+100) recorded in Instruments was more than offset by declines of 100 each in Transportation Equipment, Jewelry-Silverware and Chemical Products. The remaining segments - seven in Durable Goods and eight in Nondurable Goods reported stable employment in the May-June period.

The June work week average 39.3 hours, up 0.2 of an hour from May. Production workers averaged \$9.03 an hour in June, up 1 cent from the previous month and 54 cents compared to a year ago.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The jobless total in Rhode Island fell by 2,500 from the May level of 22,400 to the current estimate of 19,900. A year ago this month, the number of unemployed stood at 15,500.

Corresponding to the decline in unemployment, the state's unadjusted unemployment rate decreased by half a percentage point - from 4.2 percent to the June estimate of 3.7 percent. On a seasonally adjusted basis, the current rate was placed at 3.9 percent, down slightly from the prior month's estimate of 4.0 percent. One year ago, Rhode Island's unadjusted and seasonally adjusted rates were estimated at 3.0 and 3.1 percent, respectively.

Nationally, the civilian unadjusted unemployment rate rose to 5.5 percent in June from the May estimate of 5.0 percent. Comparably, the U.S. seasonally adjusted rate advanced by one-tenth of a percent - from 5.2 percent in May to the current estimate of 5.3 percent.

LARGE EMPLOYERS: REPORT YOUR WAGES ON MAGNETIC TAPE

Good news for large Rhode Island employers from the Department of Employment Security about quarterly wage reporting:

If you have 250 or more workers on your payroll, research has shown that the most efficient method for you to report this information is by magnetic tape. The data must be written on half-inch, nine-track magnetic tape and you must first submit a test tape to ensure compatibility with the Department's computer system.

Any Rhode Island employer interested in the magnetic tape reporting system can obtain information and forms by contacting the R.I. Department of Employment Security, Wage Record Unit, at 24 Mason Street, Providence, RI 02903. The telephone number is (401) 277-3651.

OCCUPATIONAL WAGE INFORMATION

In response to the numerous requests we receive for occupational wage information, the Labor Market Information (LMI) unit of this Department recently implemented a statewide Wage Survey Program. The information available from this program is gathered directly from a selected sampling of the state's employers who are asked to complete and return a relatively short and simple survey questionnaire. Our LMI unit, in turn, reviews and compiles the collected information and periodically publishes the results in an easily understood and usable format which maintains the confidentiality of individual employer responses.

To date, separate wage surveys covering various occupations in Construction, Transportation/Communication/Public Utilities, Wholesale/Retail Trade, Finance/Insurance/Real Estate and Services have been completed and are available on request. In addition, a special

survey covering Nursery/Day Care occupations has also been completed. The LMI unit has just begun preparations for a survey of occupations in Rhode Island manufacturing industries and expects to have a published report of the results by late summer.

We appreciate the cooperation of all who take the time and effort to accurately complete and promptly return our survey questionnaires which allows us to publish reliable and timely information.

Copies of our wage surveys may be obtained by writing to:

Rhode Island Department of Employment Security
ATTENTION: LMI UNIT
24 Mason Street
Providence, RI 02903

RHODE ISLAND

Labor Force - Unemployment Estimates
(In thousands)

	June 1989	May 1989	June 1988
Civilian Labor Force	523.3	534.2	524.4
Unemployment	19.9	22.4	15.5
Rate (Unadjusted)	3.7	4.2	3.0
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	3.9	4.0	3.1

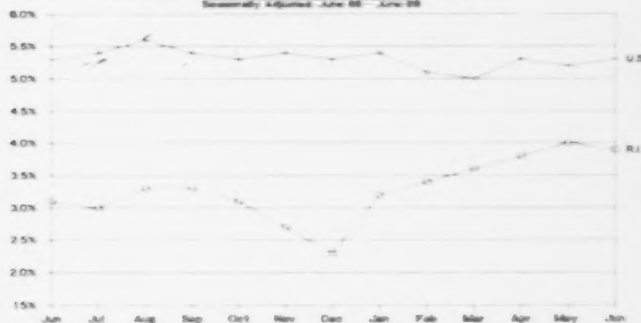
UNITED STATES

Labor Force - Unemployment Estimates
(In thousands)

	June 1989	May 1989	June 1988
Civilian Labor Force	125,569	123,196	123,028
Unemployment	6,850	6,156	6,819
Rate (Unadjusted)	5.5	5.0	5.5
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	5.3	5.2	5.4

R.I. and U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Seasonally Adjusted: June 88 - June 89



ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN R.I.

June 1989

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands)	PRODUCTION-WORKER AVERAGES		
		Weekly Earnings	Weekly Hours	Hourly Earnings
ALL MANUFACTURING	113.1	354.88	39.3	9.03
DURABLE GOODS	76.5	349.05	39.0	8.95
LUMBER/FURNITURE	3.0	425.64	38.8	10.97
STONE-CLAY-GLASS	1.9	460.37	38.3	12.02
PRIMARY METALS	3.4	420.61	42.4	9.92
FABRICATED METALS	8.8	339.60	40.0	8.49
NONELECTRIC MACHINERY	5.7	455.39	41.1	11.08
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY	10.9	339.95	39.3	8.65
TRANSPORTATION EQUIP.	9.3	443.52	38.5	11.52
INSTRUMENTS	4.8	376.36	40.6	9.27
JEWELRY-SILVERWARE	21.3	278.96	38.2	7.30
MISCELLANEOUS MFG	6.4	282.66	36.1	7.83
NONDURABLE GOODS	36.6	366.68	39.9	9.19
FOOD-BEVERAGE	2.9	343.96	39.4	8.73
TEXTILES	9.9	325.10	41.1	7.91
APPAREL	2.3	294.84	39.0	7.56
PAPER PRODUCTS	2.7	360.29	41.7	8.64
PRINTING-PUBLISHING	7.0	462.03	35.9	12.87
CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	3.3	439.37	39.3	11.18
RUBBER PRODUCTS	1.3	388.52	41.2	9.43
PLASTICS PRODUCTS	5.1	385.84	40.7	9.48
LEATHER PRODUCTS	2.1	273.77	40.8	6.71

TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

	EMPLOYMENT IN THOUSANDS			NET CHANGE FROM	
	June 1989	May 1989	June 1988	May 1989	June 1988
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT**	462.2	461.3	459.3	+ 900	+ 2900
MANUFACTURING	113.1	113.3	114.2	- 200	- 1100
NONMANUFACTURING	349.1	348.0	345.1	+ 1100	+ 4000
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	22.8	21.9	21.6	+ 900	+ 1200
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	16.4	16.3	16.3	+ 100	+ 100
TRADE (Wholesale & Retail)	105.6	104.2	105.2	+ 1400	+ 400
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	26.7	26.6	26.6	+ 100	+ 100
SERVICE (Miscellaneous)	117.2	118.6	116.0	- 1400	+ 1200
GOVERNMENT (Federal, State & Local)	60.4	60.4	59.4	0	+ 1020

*Farmers, Self-employed, Domestic and Armed Services personnel are excluded. Current month figures are PRELIMINARY. Prior month and year figures are REVISED. Compiled by THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY in cooperation with the U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

**Labor Dispute

For additional statistical information contact Research and Statistics at 277-3700.